

# SAVANNAH COURIER.

C. L. HEFNER, Proprietor.

NON-POLITICAL.

Devoted to the Interests of the South and its Patrons.

THURSDAY, DEC. 10, 1885.

In the organization of Congress which took place last Monday, John Sherman, of Ohio, was elected Speaker of the Senate, and John G. Carlisle, of Kentucky, was elected Speaker of the House.

Tennessee has thirty-five national banks, with a capital of \$5,100,000.

Ex Senator Bailey is dying of cancer of the stomach at his home in Clarksville.

Easter will fall on the 25th of next April, the first on that date since 1734, and the last until 1943.

The coinage executed at the mints during November was \$4,653,950, of which \$2,500,000 was in standard silver dollars.

Wm. Hunter, Second Assistant Secretary of State, is the oldest office holder in the United States, having been in office since 1829.

Jenny Lind, for the first time in twenty-two years, will sing in public next summer. It will be purely for a charitable purpose.

The people of Dakota Territory are clamoring for admission into the Union as a State. Their motto is: "By God the People Rule."

The tax aggregate of Tennessee for 1885, according to the statement of the Comptroller, is \$226,749,308; nearly a million short of what it should be.

At its annual meeting this fall the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry passed a series of resolutions commending female suffrage, over which the ladies are quite jubilant.

The Dominion Government has made public its defense for the execution of Rell. It says that he was guilty of high treason for the second time, and had no claim to the indulgence which it has been the habit to accord to political offenders.

The Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railroad Company advanced the price of iron \$1.50 per ton on Monday. The Nashville Union says: "The indications all point to fair prices for iron, and if so, the South will have new life—a life in business growth never thought of in olden times."

California tried a curious experiment in her penitentiary. She paid her convicts a stipulated sum per day, in the hope that they would do better work and lead a more correct life. The sum was small—ten cents per day—and the scheme proved a failure. Instead of saving their pocket money, or sending it to their people, the convicts developed a thriving trade in opium, which was smuggled into the prison.

## POSTAL MATTERS.

The postmaster-general's annual report shows that for the fiscal year ending June 30th the expenditures of the post office department have been over \$7,000,000 in excess of receipts.

The postmaster general accounts for this deficiency by the loss of revenue induced by the decrease in postage rate and the increase of expenditures to the extent of \$6,466,955, resulting mainly from the establishment of over 2,000 new offices and the extension of general mail facilities. The total cost of the department for the year is \$50,942,415, and the appropriation asked for the ensuing year is \$54,936,166.

## STATE NEWS.

A natural gas well has been discovered in Maury County.

At Knoxville last week five members of J. A. Galyon's family were poisoned by drinking coffee in which their colored cook had placed a pound of arsenic.

Another frightful saw mill accident is recorded from Walston's Ridge, near Lorraine, Rhea County. The victim was Moses Davenport, who, while working near the saw, had his clothing caught in the machinery and was dragged to his death, being literally saved to pieces.

Two hundred of the depositions taken in the removal case very mysteriously disappeared from the custody of the Clerk and Master at Falcon, and hence no trial. Some try to make it appear that Bob McKinney did it. That will not do; for Bob knows nothing of such tricks. Such a proceeding is unworthy a civilized people. The people of this county as a whole, both removalists and non removalists, desire a speedy, honest and fair settlement of the matter.—Independent.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### Pascent Life in Serbia.

At this time, when the eyes of the world are turned toward Serbia and Bulgaria, the following impression of the Serbian people, from the pen of Thomas Stevens, in Outing for December, is full of interest:

My ride through Serbia, save over the Balkans, has been most enjoyable, and the roads, I am agreeably surprised to have to record, have averaged as good as any country in Europe, save England and France, though being for the most part unmacadamized, with wet weather they would scarcely show to such an advantage. My impression of the Serbians is most favorable; they are evidently a warm-hearted, hospitable, and, withal, a patriotic people, loving their little country and appreciating their independence as only people who have but recently had their dreams of self government realized know how to appreciate it.

They even paint the wood work of their bridges and public buildings with the National colors. I am assured that the Serbians have progressed wonderfully since acquiring their full independence; but as one journeys down the beautiful and fertile valley of the Morava, where improvements would naturally be seen, if anywhere, one falls to wondering where they can possibly have come in. Some of their methods would indeed seem to indicate a most deplorable lack of practicability; one of the most ridiculous, to the writer's mind, is the erection of small, long sheds, substantially built of heavy hewn timber supports and thick home made tiles, over ordinary plank fences and gates to protect them from the weather, when a good coating of tar or paint would answer the purpose of preservation much better. These structures give one the impression of a dollar placed over a penny to protect the latter from harm.

Every peasant owns a few acres of land, and if he produces any thing above his own wants he hauls it to market in an ox wagon with roughly hewn wheels without tires, and whose creaking can plainly be heard a mile away. At present the Serbian tills his little frehold with the clumsiest of implements, some his own handwork, and the best imperfectly fashioned and forged on native anvils. His plow is chiefly the forked limb of a tree, pointed with iron sufficiently to enable him to root around in the surface soil. One would think the country might offer a promising field for some enterprising manufacturer of such implements as hoes, scythes, hay forks, small, strong plows, cultivators, etc.

These people are industrious, especially the women. I have frequently met a Serbian peasant woman returning homeward in the evening from her labor in the fields carrying a fat, heavy baby, a clumsy hoe, not much lighter than the youngster, and an earthenware pitcher, and at the same time industriously spinning wool with a hand spindle. And yet some people argue about the impossibility of doing two things at once! Whether these poor women have been hoeing potatoes, carrying the infant and spinning wool at the same time all day, I am unable to say, not having been an eye-witness, though I really should not be much astonished if they had.

### How to Reclaim Old Fields.

Plant them in locust. It matters not how badly washed the fields may be, they will grow locust trees, which in a few years will be worth, for fencing purposes, many times the value of the land.

Mr. Vance, of Giles County, a few years ago planted a worn-out hillside with locust, and he expressed the opinion that it yielded a greater profit than any part of his farm. Mr. P. Alexander, of New Liberty, Ky., has ten acres planted in locust, now ten years old. Not only is the timber worth twice as much as the land but the grazing capacity of the land has been greatly improved. He advises, in the Home and Farm, those who have fields washed into innumerable gulches, which are year by year growing worse, to plant black locust. Level down, he says, the bad places so the team can cross. Plow and plant in corn early. If planted one way, set trees in every fifth or sixth row, fifteen feet apart. The cultivation is not so much for the crop as for the benefit of the young trees. Being planted in the rows with the corn insures their protection from the team and in some degree from the singletree. One difficulty to be found is, the trees should be put out, as a general thing, before corn will do well. Avoid this by taking up the trees and heeling them in near where wanted. This will check their growth for awhile. Exercise care in taking up and heeling. Cut back the tops as you would fruit trees, and for a few years protect from stock.—American.

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## CORRESPONDENCE.

### 12th District Items.

Mr. J. P. Story moved out of the Bend to the Speers place in the 12th district, last week.

John Tidwell and family, Abe and James Blankenship arrived a few days ago from Arkansas. They talk like making Tennessee their future home.

Mrs. Renie Spencer moved into the Bend last week from near Rockdale.

Mrs. Burris is teaching instrumental music at the Baptist church. Prof. Carter is teaching vocal music at Liberty; his school closes on the 5th inst. He has been teaching there about ten days.

Mrs. Teague of Lexington, Tenn., is teaching instrumental music near Oak Grove.

If the music boom continues in the 12th it won't be long till most of the Hooker Bend girls can thump the piano.

There is prayer meeting at Witts Chapel every 21 and 34 Sunday evenings; and every 1st and 4th at Oak Grove.

Prof. Richardson's school at Liberty begins on the 7th.

Prof. James Allen is teaching a public school near Dr. John Harbert's.

Rev. D. W. Blankenship intends moving into his new house next week.

Clark Brandon left with his family on the 3d instant, to his new home in the 14th.

The Pickens brothers from Hamburg, are assisting Prof. Carter in his music school at Liberty. We have heard of several sweet compliments being passed on the two brothers since they came into the 12th.

A lady and gentleman—living in the 12th—wants to marry they have only to let a certain Esquire know their wish and he will marry them whether they are ready or not.

Mr. Wadell is driving through the 12th this week selling organs and pianos and enjoying himself with the fair sex. C. W. M.

Dec. 5, 1885.

### Clifton Items.

Clifton has the itch and has it bad. All other towns had it a year ago, but, as usual, Clifton had to be behind the times. When the girl's smiles of heavenly sweetness flicker and wane all on a sudden, one needn't think they are meditating suicide, or have seen ghosts of their grandfathers, for nothing of the kind has occurred; they are thinking, "a kingdom for a close communion with a doerfacing," or something else equally as substantial. O'tis awful!

Lige Walker is clerking for T. R. Ricketts & Co. and isn't married any at all, as Jack Don reported.

Mrs. E. V. Sims has been quite sick for the past two weeks, but is improving now.

Several socials and one dance in town last week.

Plenty of rain, frost, mud and lost temper this week.

Mrs. T. A. Copeland died the 27th ult. of consumption. The remains were interred at the funeral ground on Indian Creek, Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Copeland was a lady esteemed by all, and will be sorely missed.

Mrs. Eugene Coats is visiting her parents near our town.

Miss Hortense Tyree was visiting in town this week.

Mr. Bobbie Sevier was on our streets last Wednesday and Thursday.

Mr. Morrey visited Lawrenceburg this week.

Miss J. Marie Tison, who, for the past two months, has been visiting relatives in Murray Ky., returned home on the John's on last Monday.

Tom Wyle came in from Savannah.

The Lucy Robinson made a trip up to Clifton, this week. She came after a hog and half a dozen pigs. Quite an enjoyable dance at Dr. Clarke's Friday night.

Tob Edmiston is at home this week.

Have just received the Courier of Dec. 3d, and of course was very much surprised to see the marriage of Mr. Gill and Miss Hubbard contradicted, as it was the current report here, and was generally believed. I am sorry to have offended the lady, but did it innocently; but in the language of Jan. A. Logan, "I won't do so no more." Hoping to be forgiven without a fight, I am.

Most respectfully, R. F. Van, Dec. 6, 1885.

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